Application of: JOHNSON, Timothy A. et al.
Serial No.: 10/629,855
Filed: July 30, 2003
Reply to Office Action of February 2, 2009

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method in a data processing system for ~~of~~ communicating video information as the video information changes from one frame to another, comprising:

a. determining changes in pixel values within a current block of a frame of the video information;

b. testing:

(i) whether a change in pixel value determined in step (a) for any one of the pixels in the current block exceeds a first override threshold, and

(ii) whether a second threshold number of pixels in the current block changed in pixel value by at least a third noise threshold, wherein the second threshold is at least two, and

c. if the test of either step b.i. or step b.ii. is true, then communicating information identifying the pixel values within the block.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

d. if both conditions of steps b.i. and b.ii. are not true, then communicating a no change condition in the current block.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein:

the communicated no change condition comprises communicating nothing regarding the current block; and

decoding the video information by writing current blocks for which nothing is communicated as unchanged compared to a corresponding block in a previous frame.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said second threshold is equal to the number of pixels in the current block.

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Claim 5 (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said third threshold is greater than one.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of transmitting comprises transmitting the information identifying the pixel values within the block to a compressor for compression prior to transmission over a communication channel.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) A video encoder comprising:

a pixel value analyzer analyzing pixel values within a current block of a frame of video information to determine changes in pixel values between frames;

a comparator testing:

(i) whether a change in pixel value determined by the pixel value analyzer for any one of the pixels in the current block exceeds a first override threshold, and

(ii) whether a second threshold number of pixels in the current block changed in pixel value by at least a third noise threshold, wherein the second threshold is at least two, and

a transmitter transmitting information identifying the pixel values within the block if the comparator determines either condition b.i. or condition b.ii. is true.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) The video encoder according to claim 7, wherein the transmitter communicates a no change condition in the current block if both conditions of steps b.i. and b.ii. are not true.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented) The video encoder according to claim 8, wherein the communicated no change condition comprises a communication of nothing regarding the current block.

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Claim 10 (Previously Presented) The video encoder according to claim 7, wherein said second threshold is equal to the number of pixels in the current block.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented) The video encoder according to claim 7, wherein said third threshold is greater than one.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented) The video encoder according to claim 7, wherein the transmitter further comprises a compressor for compressing the pixel values within the block prior to transmission over a communication channel.